

## REMARKS

Claims 4 and 31 are objected to for lacking antecedent basis. Both claims have been amended for clarification and are now believed to be in proper form to overcome the objection.

Claims 1-41 and 45 remain in the case. New claim 46 is presented herewith. It is presumed that the Examiner is referring to claim 45 as claim 42 throughout the Official Action.

Claims 1-5, 8, 10-16, 24, 25, 28-33, and 35-42 stand rejected as anticipated (fully met) by Cutler US Pat. 6,272,704. Cutler relates to a changing pad having a strap 25. In use, the Cutler device can only be disposed in a first condition with a child harnessed in the resting area. The Cutler structure has no second condition in which the child is harnessed with the second base portion being angularly inclined with respect to the first base portion. Claims 1, 28, and 45 have been amended to make this distinction more clear. Applicants' independent claim 35 states that the base has a first and second section, the second base section being laterally rigid. Clearly, therefore, independent claims 1, 28, 35, and 45 are not fully met by the Cutler reference within the meaning of 35 USC 102. Claims 2-5, 8, 10-16, 24-25, 29-33, and 36-41 each depend from an independent claim, and merely add additional limitations thereto. Thus, each of these dependent claims is equally patentable with the independent claim from which it depends.

Claims 1-5, 10-13, 15-16, 22-27, and 35-41 stand rejected as anticipated (fully met) by Johnston US Pat. 5,366,271. Clearly independent claim 1, as amended, and independent claim 35, are not anticipated by Johnston, within the meaning of 35 USC 102, because the collapsibility of the first and second portions (see Figures 10, 11 and 12) of Johnston only provides for one condition with the child in the resting area and not a first and a second condition. Claims 2-5, 10-13, 15-16, 22-27, and 36-41 each depend from independent claim 1 or 35, and merely add additional limitations thereto. Thus, each of these dependent claims is equally patentable with the independent claim from which it depends.

Claims 1, 2, 10-13, 15-21, 24, 25, 35, 36, 40, and 41 stand rejected as anticipated (fully met) by Howell US Pat. 5,641,200. Kindly note that in Howell that the padding 5 may be provided in the seat segment 2 with the backrest 3 of fabric or cloth seat as desired. There is no laterally rigid backrest that would ensure that the device remains stable when the child is harnessed within the resting area. Clearly, therefore, independent claims 1 and 35 are not fully met by the Howell reference within the meaning of 35 USC 102. Claims 2, 10-13, 15-21, 24, 25, 36, 40, and 41 each depend from an independent claim, and merely add additional limitations thereto. Thus, each of these dependent claims is equally patentable with the independent claim from which it depends.

Claims 1-13, 15-16, 22-25, 28-33, and 34-41 stand rejected as anticipated (fully met) by Blake US Pat. 3,767,259. Blake relates to a safety seat assembly having a particular shock absorbing assembly. In the embodiment described there is structure for allowing angular movement between first and second base portions with the child remaining in the seat. Hinge 52 is provided merely to allow the seat to be placed in a collapsed state. Clearly, therefore, independent claims 1, 28, and 35 are not fully met by the Blake reference within the meaning of 35 USC 102. Claims 2-13, 15-16, 22-25, 29-33, 34, and 36-41 each depend from an independent claim, and merely add additional limitations thereto. Thus, each of these dependent claims is equally patentable with the independent claim from which it depends.

Claims 1, 2, 8, 10-13, 16, 22-25, 28-29, 33-36, 40 and 41 stand rejected as anticipated (fully met) by Kamiki US Pat. 6,601,916. As with Howell US Patent 5,641,200, there is no teaching in Kamiki of a laterally rigid back structure that would ensure that the device remains stable when the child is harnessed within the resting area. The backrest reclining portion 20 described with reference to Figures 22, 23 and 24 is said to be constituted by a flexible structure with an air cushion 91. Clearly, therefore, independent claims 1, 28, and 35 are not fully met by the Kamiki reference within the meaning of 35 USC 102. Claims 2, 8, 10-13, 16, 22-25, 29, 33-34, 36, 40 and 41 each depend from an independent claim, and merely add additional limitations thereto. Thus, each of these dependent claims is equally patentable with the independent claim from which it depends.

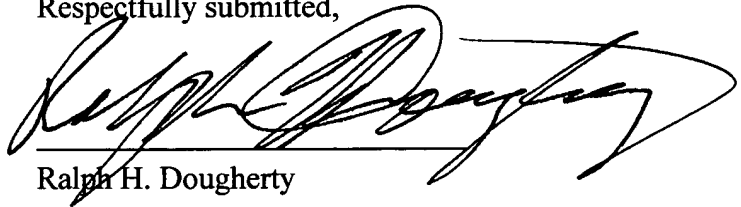
The remaining references which were cited but not applied have been reviewed, but clearly are no more pertinent to the claims than the references cited in the rejections.

Please note that we have introduced new claim 46 directed towards a portable diaper changing mat which has similar limitations to independent claims 1 and 45, and thus should be equally patentable therewith. None of the references discloses a portable diaper changing board having a first condition wherein first and second base portions are aligned to provide a changing board.

Since the amendment to the claims adds one more independent claim than previously paid for, the additional fee is submitted herewith.

In view of the foregoing amendment and these remarks, this application is now believed to be in condition for allowance and such favorable action is respectfully requested on behalf of applicants.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ralph H. Dougherty', written over a horizontal line.

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